

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached "Replacement Sheets" of drawings include changes to Figures 1A, 3A, 4A, 6A, and 7A. The attached "Replacement Sheets," which include Figures 1A-1C, 3A-3B, 4A-4C, 6A-B, and 7A-B replace the original sheets including Figures 1A-1C, 3A-3B, 4A-4C, 6A-B, and 7A-B.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 3 and 6-34 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended to Applicants' representative, Jason A. Heist, during the telephonic interviews conducted on October 6, 2006 and December 7, 2006. In the telephonic interviews, various amendments to the claims were discussed in relation to the cited prior art reference Kubo (U.S. Patent No. 6,195,140). After reviewing the amendments, the Examiner indicated that the amendments appear to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Regardless, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claims 1 and 18 stand objected to for certain informalities. Particularly, claim 1 is objected to because claim 1 recites a light-reflecting layer overlapping the reflective display region, which the Examiner believes renders the claimed display inoperable. Claim 18 stands objected to because the claimed shading film on the second substrate overlaps the first substrate transition region in the thickness direction, which the Examiner believes is impossible because the shading film would need to be on the second substrate and under the sloped region of the thickness adjusting layer in order to overlap in a thickness direction.

Notwithstanding, claim 1 has been amended to recite that the light-reflecting layer is located in the reflective display region, as opposed to overlapping the reflective display region. Claim 18 has been amended to delete the phrase “with respect to a thickness direction of the liquid crystal.” By these amendments, the objection to the claims should be moot.

DRAWINGS

The drawings stand objected to for certain informalities. Applicants have attached revised drawings for the Examiner's approval. In the “Replacement Sheets,” Figure 1A has been amended to be consistent with the sectional views shown in Figures 1B and 1C; Figure 3A has been amended to be consistent with Figure 3B; Figure 4A has been amended to be consistent with Figures 4B and 4C; Figure 6A has been amended to be consistent with Figure 6B; and Figure 7A has been amended to be consistent with Figure 7B. Favorable consideration of these drawing changes is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-3 and 6-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner alleges that an active matrix type pixilated display that requires pixel electrodes is disclosed in the present application. Notwithstanding, the Examiner alleges Applicant has not positively recited pixel electrodes in its claims. Notwithstanding, Applicant has amended the claims to positively recite a plurality of

pixel regions including electrodes. Because the claims have been amended to recite a plurality of pixel regions including electrodes, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 2, 7-9, 11, 14-17, and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kubo (U.S. Pat. No. 6,195,140). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that a portion of the light reflecting layer adjacent the transmissive-display region completely overlaps with the slopes of the thickness adjusting layer to prevent transmitted light from entering the transition between the reflective-display region and the transmissive-display region. This is different from the configuration disclosed in Kubo because, referring to Figure 29 of Kubo, it can be seen that the light reflecting layer 169 does not completely overlap with the slope of the thickness adjusting layer 170. Furthermore, because the light reflecting layer 169 does not overlap with the slope of the thickness adjusting layer 170 the device of Kubo is incapable of preventing transmitted light from entering the transition between the reflective-display region and the transmissive-display region, as claimed. Because Kubo is silent with respect to these aspects of the claimed invention, Applicant respectfully asserts that the claimed invention would not have been obvious in view of Kubo.

Claims 3 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kubo (U.S. Pat. No. 6,195,140) in view of Kim (U.S. Pat. No. 6,522,377). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As stated above, the independent claims have been amended and rewritten. Neither Kubo nor Kim teaches or suggests the structures defined by the newly amended independent claims. Because the cited prior art references failed to teach or suggest limitations of the independent base claims, Applicant respectfully asserts that dependent Claims 3 and 12 would not have been obvious for at least the same reasons.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

NEW CLAIMS

New claims 19-34 have been added. New claims 19-34 are fully supported by the Specification and Drawings as originally filed. No new matter has been added. Favorable consideration of these new claims is respectfully requested.

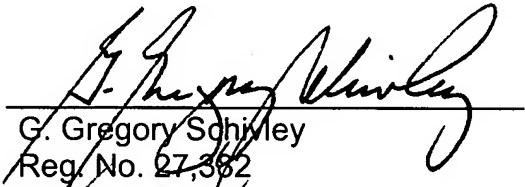
CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner

believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Jan 10, 2007

By: 
G. Gregory Schirley
Reg. No. 27,362
Bryant E. Wade
Reg. No. 40,344

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

GGG/BEW/JAH